

Town of Lyman Charter Commission

Regular Meeting Minutes

April 7, 2022 – 6:04 P.M.

Note: These are summary minutes. A recording of the meeting is available on the Lyman Town Hall YouTube channel. Minutes are not verbatim. Minutes may be paraphrased for clarity. Minutes are draft until approved by the Charter Commission.

Members present - Peggy Macdonald, Jessica Picard, Judith St. Onge, Roger Hooper, Amber Swett, Michelle Feliccitti, Don Hernon, David Alves, Celeste Hatch

Public present - William Single

Motion by Don Hernon, seconded by Peggy Macdonald to accept meeting minutes from March 8, 2022. Approved 8-0-1.

Motion by Roger Hooper, seconded by Judy St. Onge to accept meeting minutes from March 14, 2022. Approved 8-0-1.

Discussion regarding adding Wards to Charter. Questions whether this is something that should be placed in the Comprehensive Plan versus in the Charter. Suggestion, that this go back to the Select Board for a committee to be put together and possibly a petition or referendum for a Charter change before the next ten (10) year review.

Discussion regarding ordinance changes. Suggestion, needing 250 signatures for petition to get put on ballot as a Citizens Initiative. Suggestions include multiple public hearings. Tabled for further discussion.

Discussion regarding another member of a Board interfering with a matter before another board. Question whether this would be handled under the Code of Ethics and how to discipline or remove using the Fair Hearing Board. Tabled for further discussion.

Discussion regarding term limits. Suggestion, for Town Manager option is staggered, one (1) three (3) year term for Selectboard. Without a Town Manager option is two (2) three (3) year terms. Both options with an eighteen (18) month break in-between.

Changes to both versions of Charter made to reflect two (2) three (3) year terms with an eighteen (18) month break in-between.

Discussion regarding agendas and changing the agenda. When changes can be made and when they can not be changed. Roger Hooper will work on wording for next meeting.

Discussion regarding the use of the word practicable in the Charter. Members agree the word will remain.

Discussion regarding Public feedback received. Emails sent to Charter Commission email read at the meeting. Town Manager appointments made with concurrence of the Board. Term limits were previously discussed and Boards and wording to define function.

Discussion regarding the timeline and next steps for upcoming Final Report. There are seven (7) or eight (8) meetings left until Final Report due in June. Will need to decide what articles should be voted on separately.

Roger Hooper will work on a press release about Preliminary Report to generate publicity and help get the word out to town residents.

Public Comment – wording surrounding Public Hearings.

Motion made by Celeste Hatch, seconded by Michelle Felicitti to adjourn meeting. Unanimously approved. 7:44 PM.